REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 2-7, 9, 11, and 23-28 will be pending. By this amendment, claims 1, 8, 10, and 12-22 have been canceled. Claims 2-7, 9, and 11 have been amended, and claims 23-28 have been added. No new matter has been added.

§112 Rejection of Claims 1, 10, and 12

In Section 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 10, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with written description requirement. Claims 1, 10, and 12 have been canceled, thereby obviating the rejection.

§102 Rejection of Claims 8-9

In Section 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Logan *et al.* (U.S. Patent 5,732,216; hereinafter referred to as "Logan"). Claim 8 has been canceled, and claim 9 has been amended to depend from newly-added claim 25, thereby obviating the rejection.

§103 Rejection of Claims 1-2, 10, 12, and 18-19

In Section 7 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-2, 10, 12, and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan. Claims 1, 10, 12, and 18-19 have been canceled, and claim 2 has been amended to depend from newly-added claim 23, thereby obviating the rejection.

§103 Rejection of Claims 4-5 and 15

In Section 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 4-5 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan, in view of Ranger (U.S. Patent 5,999,940). Claim 15 has been canceled, and claims 4 and 5 have been amended to depend from newly-added claim 23, thereby obviating the rejection.

§103 Rejection of Claims 3 and 11

In Section 9 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 3 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan, in view of Heidin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,185,535; hereinafter referred to as "Heidin"). Claims 3 and 11 have been amended to depend from newly-added claims 23 and 26, respectively, thereby obviating the rejection.

§103 Rejection of Claim 6

In Section 10 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan, in view of Ladd *et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,493,671; hereinafter referred to as "Ladd"). Claim 6 has been amended to depend from newly-added claim 23, thereby obviating the rejection.

§103 Rejection of Claim 7

In Section 11 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan, in view of Heidin, and further in view of Ladd.

Claim 7 has been amended to depend from newly-added claim 23, thereby obviating the rejection.

§103 Rejection of Claim 13 and 20-22

In Section 12 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 13 and 20-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan, in view of Milsted *et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,263,313; hereinafter referred to as "Milsted"). Claims 13 and 20-22 have been canceled, thereby obviating the rejection.

§103 Rejection of Claim 14 and 16-17

In Section 13 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 14 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Logan, in view of Ranger, and further in view of Milsted. Claims 14 and 16-17 have been canceled, thereby obviating the rejection.

Newly-added Claims 23-28

In the Background section of the Specification, it was disclosed that portable devices are in wide use today. The size and weight of the portable device can be significantly reduced to increase the portability by using a speech recognition device rather than a conventional input device, such as a keyboard or keypad. "However, if a speech recognition device is used in the portable terminal as means for recognizing the input information, it is extremely difficult to eliminate errors in speech recognition. Moreover, the probability of accurate recognition of the input audio information in the conventional speech recognition device is not that high." *The background of the Specification, page 2, lines 7-10.*

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The structure of the contents selection system and method described in newly-added claims 23-28 is designed to overcome the above-described shortcomings of the speech recognition device. Specifically, newly-added claims 23-28 disclose client, server, system, and method for selecting contents items. For example, the contents selection system of claim 23 includes "a client configured to transmit first input speech information to a server over a network; and a server configured to receive the first input speech information from the client, and generate contents selection information in response to the first input speech information". The "contents selection information enables said client to select at least one contents item from a predetermined number of contents items that narrows the possible contents items for selection by said client, and to provide the selection as second input speech information to the server so that the server can interpret the selection in the second input speech information only within those possible contents items, with substantially fewer errors than without the contents selection information." *Claim 23.*

For example, in one implementation shown in Figure 2, the client transmits first input speech information describing a title of a song, a performer name, and/or genre to the server. The server receives the input and generates contents selection information in response to the input. In the illustrated implementation, the contents selection information includes a list of candidate musical numbers that might satisfy the input made by the client. The server transmits the list of candidate musical numbers to the client, who then makes a selection of at least one musical number from the list of candidate musical numbers. The selection made by the client is then transmitted to the server as second input speech information. Thus, the contents selection information enables the client to select at least one musical number from a predetermined number of candidate musical numbers so that the server can interpret the selection only within

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those predetermined number of candidate musical numbers, with substantially fewer errors than without the contents selection information. The reduction in error rate is made possible because the contents selection information narrows the possible contents items for selection for the client so that the server can process the second input speech information within those possible contents items only.

It appears that Logan merely teaches "audio program and message distribution system in which a host system organizes and transmits program segments to client subscriber locations." Logan does not suggest or teach providing narrower choices to the client so that the speech recognition device can process the input speech information with significantly fewer errors. Further, it does not appear that any of the cited references, in combination or individually, specifically teach or suggest receiving input speech information, generating contents selection information that narrows the possible contents items for selection, processing the selection only within those possible contents items.

Based on the foregoing discussion, claims 23-28 should be allowable. Furthermore, currently-amended claims 2-7, 9, and 11 have been amended to depend from claims 23, 25, and 26, respectively. Therefore, claims 2-7, 9, and 11 should also be allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, and the allowance of this application with claims 2-7, 9, 11, and 23-28 are respectfully solicited.

In regard to the claims amended herein and throughout the prosecution of this application, it is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over

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the prior art of record, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35

U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of

patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are

made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is
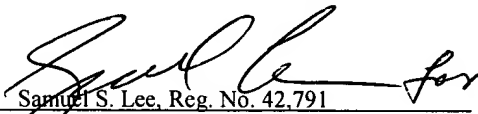
entitled.

In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its

prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicant's representative at the

telephone number written below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any

overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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